1	2	3	4	5	6	7
26. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Summary	Summary	Intensive	Summary	Intensive	Summary
27. Chandigarh	Summary	Summary	Intensive	Summary	Intensive	Summary
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Summary	Summary	Intensive	Summary	Intensive	Summary
29. Daman and Diu	Summary	Summary	Intensive	Summary	Intensive	Summary
30 National Capital Territory of Delhi	Summary	Summary	Intensive	Intensive	Summary	Summary
31. Lakshadweep	Summary	Summary	Intensive	Summary	Intensive	Summary
32 Pondicherry	Summary	Summary	Intensive	Summary	Intensive	Summary

Coal Mine Accidents

3238. PROF. JITENDER NATH DAS :
PROF. RITA VERMA :
SHRI HARADHAN ROY :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coal mine accidents occurred during the last three years till date, company-wise and subsidiary-wise;

(b) the number of persons killed/injured in those accidents;

(c) the compensation paid to the dependents of the killed workers and to the injured workers;

(d) whether the Government have set up any enquiry committee to enquire about the causes of such accidents;

(e) if so, the details of the report of that committee; and

(f) the action taken against the persons responsible for those accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). As per data furnished by Directorate General Mines Safety (DGMS), company-wise details of coal mine accidents occurred during the years 1993 1994, 1995 and 1996 (upto November, 1996) are given as under :

Company	Fatal Accidents		Serious Accidents	
	Number	Killed	Number	seriously injured
1	2	3	4	5
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	118	205	384	422
Central Coalfields Ltd.	70	77	138	153
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	79	138	588	612
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	21	22	85	91
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	16	18	35	36
Northh Eastern Coalfields	5	14	1	2
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	71	83	168	195
Western Coalfields Ltd.	56	56	571	594
Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation	5	5	4	6
Indian Iron and Steel Co.	6	6	26	28
Jammu and Kashmir Minerals	0	0	3	3
Neyveli Lignite Corporation	5	5	11	11
Singareni Collieries Company Limited	114	136	743	801
Tata Iron & Steel Co.	16	16	66	68
Total	582	783	2823	3022

(c) In case of injury, the amount of compensation is worked out as per provisions contained in the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 and is based on the degree of disability, age and monthly earnings of the worker. In case of death, in addition to the compensation amount computed as per provisions of the Act, the following amount is paid by Coal India Limited (CIL) to the dependants of a deceased worker :

(i) Funeral expenses	-	Rs. 500/-
(ii) Ex-gratia amount	-	Rs. 10000
(iii) Amount under Life Cover Scheme	-	Rs. 20000/-

In addition, employment to one of the dependants of the deceased is also offered. Alternatively, in lieu of employment, the widow/female dependant is paid a monthly pension of Rs. 3000/- till she attains 60 years of age/dies/remarries, whichever is earlier.

(d) to (f). Normally all the fatal and some of the serious accidents are enquired into by the officers of DGMS. In cases where a large number of fatalities is involved the Government constitutes a Court of Inquiry, under Section 24 of the Mines Act, 1952 to

asertain the causes and circumstances attending the accident.

In the last three years, two Courts of Inquiry have been constituted in the case of the accident at New Kenda on 25.1.1994 and the inundation of Gaslitand group of mines on 26/27.9.1995. Both the Courts of Inquiry are yet to submit their reports.

[Translation]

Explosion in Hazaribagh

3239. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether an explosion took place in 35 pits of Eastparez coal mine near Hazaribagh Thana (Bihar) under BCCL on October 25, 1996;

(b) whether the several residential houses developed cracks due to that explosion as the mine security rules were not adhered to;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that no damage is done due to explosion in future to the residential houses which developed cracks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) As per information furnished by Coal India Limited (CIL), there is no coal mine named 35 pit of East Parez under Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL). However, there is an open cast mine named Parej East under Central Coalfields Limited (CCL). There has not been any explosion from this mine on 25th October, 1996.

(b) to (d). Do not arise in view of (a) above

[English]

Meeting on TRIPS and Patent Laws

3240. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Parliamentarians Scientists and other concerned experts from 17 countries met in a conference in Delhi on November 14-15, 1996 to discuss the matter relating to Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and Patent Laws, on an invitation from the Forum of Parliamentarians on Intellectual Property Right;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed in the conventions and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The issues discussed in the international conference related to Patent System, Foreign investment and emerging issues in WTO such as Labour Standards. The conference adopted a Declaration urging, inter-alia, the Governments of the developing countries to oppose any move to enlarge the scope of WTO through the introduction of new issues in the forth-coming Ministerial Meeting at Singapore. The Government has taken note of the deliberations in the Conference.

Cotton Corporation of India

3241. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total loss incurred by Cotton Corporation of India for support price operation during 1995-96, and

(b) the loss recovered by Cotton Corporation of India by export of cotton during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Since no price support operations were undertaken by the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd., during the year 1995-96, no losses were incurred.

(b) Does not arise.

Decline in Export to Russia

3242. SHRI G. VENKET SWAMY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether export to Russia has declined during the first four months of the current year especially of tea;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps taken to boost the export during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The decline in India's overall export to Russian Federation during the first four months of the current financial year i.e., April-July, 1996 has been largely caused by inadequate and delayed allocation of rupee funds under the debt re-payment track, by the human authorities lack of adequate representation of Russian importing agencies with sufficient experience in terms of allocation of rupee funds for import of goods from India to Russia and the delay in issuance of irrevocable letters of credit by the Russian banks acting as a major disincentive to the Indian exports.

Lower export ot tea to Russian Federation has been on account of procedural problems resulting from rupee allocation system in Russia for importing goods from India by Russian Federation under the debt repayment mechanism. Due to the problem of rouble coverage from the Russian importers and high interest rates prevailing in Russia, the landed cost of Indian tea being exported under the debt repayment route is becoming uncompetitive.